

Illinois P-20 Teacher and Leadership Effectiveness Sub-Committee

April 2nd Minutes

The P-20 Teacher and Leadership Effectiveness Committee arranged to host Maddie Fennell from the United States Department of Education at various venues across Bloomington and Normal on April 2nd to discuss topics of education. Mrs. Fennell is a Teacher Ambassador Fellow at the Department of Education and an award-winning teacher.



Maddie Fennell has been an elementary teacher in the Omaha Public Schools for 25 years and is working in a hybrid role, combining her role as a Literacy Coach with her second year as a United States Department of Education Classroom Teacher Ambassador Fellow. She has served in numerous education advocacy roles, including Chairing the NEA Commission on Effective Teachers and Teaching, presenting at the 2014 Teaching and Learning Conference, the 2012 International Summit on the Teaching Profession, Education Nation in 2011 and being honored as the 2007 NE Teacher of the Year. Maddie is currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Nebraska State Education

Association, as Secretary of the National Network of State Teachers of the Year, and as a teacher representative on the Convergence Center for Policy Resolution Re-Imagining Education Project. She is a National Board Certified Teacher (Middle Childhood Generalist), has an undergraduate degree from Creighton University, a Master of Science in Elementary Education and a Certificate in Urban Education from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and an endorsement in assessment from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln.

Evans Junior High School- 8 a.m.-10 a.m.

2901 Morrissey Drive, Bloomington, Illinois 61704

In Attendance: Dr. Daniel-Superintendent McLean County Unit District No. 5, Dr. Wilson- Asst. Superintendent McLean County Unit District No.5, Amanda Taxis- Instructional Coach K-12 Somonauk School District, Sue Hospelhorn- Elementary Math Coach Dist. 5, Lori Stevens- Reading Recovery Teacher Leader, Dist. 5, Cally Hutson- Elementary Reading Intervention Specialist, Unit 5. , Maureen Backe- Elementary Reading Specialist Unit 5, Trish Warner- Secondary Reading Specialist Unit 5, Doni Morgan- 3rd Grade Teacher, Sandwich Dist. 430, Lynn Gaddis- Illinois State Teachers of the Year President, Trish Warner- Secondary Reading Specialist Unit 5, Rexie Lanier- Secondary Reading Specialist Unit 5, Pam Reilly- 2014 Illinois Teacher of the Year Sandwich Dist. 430, Sean Mullins- Secondary Technology Instructional Coach Unit 5, Amber O'Day- Secondary Technology Instructional Coach Unit 5, Jason Nourie- Elementary Technology Instructional Coach Unit 5, Trevor Chapman- Principal Evans Junior High School , Erika Hunt- Center for the Study of Education Policy at I.S.U. and Illinois P-20 Chair, Maddie Fennell- United States Department of Education Teacher Ambassador Fellow



Dr. Sandy Wilson, the assistant superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction in McLean County Unit 5 arranged two school visits for Mrs. Fennell. Maddie facilitated a round table forum at Evans Junior High School with teacher leaders from the district around the topic of teacher leadership in Unit 5. The teachers and administrators shared the challenges and success stories of the distributed leadership models and how it has impacted student achievement.



Sugar Creek Elementary/ECE Center – 10 a.m.-11 a.m.

200 N. Towanda Ave. Normal, IL 61761

In Attendance: Michelle Lamboley- Special Education Director/CPC Coordinator, Scott Peter- Principal Sugar Creek, Maddie Fennell- USDOE Teacher Ambassador Fellow, Lynn Gaddis- ILSTOY President, Pam Reilly- P-20 Consultant & 2014 Illinois Teacher of the Year, Erika Hunt- Center for the Study of Educational Policy at I.S.U. & P-20 Chair, Beth Kelly- Family Coordinator ECE, Kristy Siebert- CPC Coordinator, Amanda Taxis- Instructional Coach Somonauk, Doni Morgan- 3rd Grade Teacher Sandwich, Dist. 430.



At Sugar Creek Elementary, Mr. Peters the principal and Michelle Lamboley the Special Education Director and CPC Coordinator gave Mrs. Fennell a tour of their facility.

During the tour Maddie was able to view The Child Parent Center (CPC) that is funded in part by the USDOE i3 grant. The CPC Program is a PreK-Grade 3 model that provides comprehensive educational and family support services to children from preschool through third grade. Mrs. Fennell was impressed with the many programs and services in which parents can actively engage in their child's education at the school. In the school's Parent Resource Room is a Lending Library in which students and families can check out books and board games to engage in educational activities with their families. Pictured here; Kristy Siebert shows Maddie kits, board games and books that can be checked out by parents to encourage actively engaging them in their child's education at school. They hold Family Fun Night, Parent Workshops and Monthly Newsletters. I have attached a detailed report titled, *The Child Parent Center at Sugar Creek ~ A Deeper Look into the CPC Project*.



Roundtable at ISU with teachers and administrators
On the topic of ESEA (No Child Left Behind Act) 12 p.m.-1:15 p.m.

In attendance: Maddie Fennell- USDOE Teacher Ambassador Fellow, Lynn Gaddis- ILSTOY President, Pam Reilly- ILSTOY Vice-President & 2014 Illinois Teacher of the Year, Steve Elza- 2015 Illinois Teacher of the Year, Erika Hunt- Center for the Study of Education Policy I.S.U. & P-20 Chair, Amanda Taxis- Instructional Coach K-12 Somonauk, Doni Morgan- 3rd Grade Teacher Sandwich Dist. 430, Pam Reilly, 2014 Illinois Teacher of the Year, facilitator, Glen Hoffman, Regional Alternative School Director, Lisa Castleman, Olympia High School Teacher Leader, Beth Topping, Parkside Jr. High, 6th grade, Kelly Mathy, Washington Elementary School, District 87, 4th grade, Jason Krolenga, Normal West, Social Studies, Cathy Weber, Ridgeview Elementary School Principal, Sarah Bonner, 8th grade Language Arts, Heyworth Jr. High, Cindy Helmers, District 87 Curriculum Director



Diane Wolf, the Assistant Regional Superintendent of Schools 17, arranged a round table for Maddie to meet with teachers, principals and directors from across the area. The conversation at this table centered on assessments, ESEA and our statewide PARCC test. The dialog was rich and Maddie appreciated the honest conversations that were being shared at the table about concerns pertaining to assessments along with valuable input on possible solutions moving forward.

I.S.U. University Roundtable on Their New
Teacher Leadership Endorsement Program- 1:15 p.m.-2: 30 p.m.

In Attendance: Maddie Fennell- USDOE Teacher Ambassador Fellow, Erika Hunt, ISU, Pam Reilly- ILSTOY Vice- President and 2014 Illinois Teacher of the Year, Steve Elza- 2015 Teacher of the Year, Amanda Taxis- Instructional Coach K-12 Somonauk, Doni Morgan- 3rd Grade Teacher Sandwich, Lynn Gaddis- ILSTOY President, ISU Faculty- Len Sutton, Linda Haling, Miranda Lin, Tom Crumpler, Stacy Jones Bock, Guy Banicki, Wendy Troxel, Lucille Eckrich, Brad Hutchison



Dr. Lenford Sutton, the Department Chair at the College of Education arranged and facilitated a meeting with Maddie and the education Professors at Illinois State University. They gave Mrs. Fennell an overview of their Teacher Leadership Endorsement Program that will be offered in the fall for educators. It was beneficial for both sides of the table to hear what the needs are out in the field and how the program will prepare teachers for their new teacher leadership roles in their school districts.



Illinois P-20 Teacher and Leadership Effectiveness Committee
Erika Hunt and Audrey Soglin Co-Chairs 3:00-5:00

In Attendance: In Attendance: Maddie Fennell- USDOE Teacher Ambassador Fellow, Erika Hunt, ISU, Pam Reilly- ILSTOY Vice- President and 2014 Illinois Teacher of the Year, Steve Elza- 2015 Teacher of the Year, Amanda Taxis- Instructional Coach K-12 Somonauk, Doni Morgan- 3rd Grade Teacher Sandwich, Lynn Gaddis- ILSTOY President, Ginger Reynolds (UIC), Diane Rutledge (LUDA), Annice Brave (IEA), Jane Russell (IFT), Marlon Cummings (Advance Illinois), McKala Fray, Josh Kaufmann (Teach Plus), Randy Hultgren(Congress), Jan Fitzsimmons(NCC), Dr. Max McGee, Meredith Byers (IEA), Amee Adkins(ISU), Lisa Hood(ISU), Miranda Lin(ISU), Andrea Evans(Governor State), Brad Hutchison(ISU), Debra Kasperski(NBRC), Darleen Ruscitti(DuPage ROE), Mavis DeMar(East Aurora School District), Joni Scritchlow, Sandra Osorio(ISU)



The Illinois P-20 Teacher and Leadership Effectiveness Committee convened their monthly meeting where Maddie shared her expertise on the topic of Teacher Leadership and The Teach to Lead Initiative. Erika Hunt, Senior Policy Analyst for the Center for the Study of Education Policy and Pam Reilly, 2014 Illinois Teacher of the Year, reported on the work to date of the committee on teacher leadership in Illinois. Some of the members had recently spent a day in Cedar Rapids Iowa touring schools and learning about Iowa's Teacher Leadership System to share with the rest of the committee members.

Teacher Leadership ~ Learning Forward Event
With Maddie Fennell and Annice Brave 6:00-8:00



The day ended with a free event that was open to the public at Bone Student Center at Illinois State University titled "Teacher Leadership, Learning Forward". Inspirational and informative speeches were given by Annice Brave, National Teacher of the Year finalist, Audrey Soglin, the Executive Director of the Illinois Education Association and Maddie Fennell on the topic of Teacher Leadership.

There were several opportunities for the audience to engage in conversations about teacher leadership during the presentation. I have attached Maddie's presentation for your viewing.



